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# Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 EUR-03 /012 R

66011
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APPROVED BY: AF/C:LWALKER
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON 8525

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 264473

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN, BRUSSELS, DUBLIN, THE HAGUE, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG, PARIS, ROME, BRASILIA, USIA, USUN, USNATO, HAVANA FROM COPENHAGEN OCT 27:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 6430

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: AO CU US DA
SUBJ: MFA COMMENTS ON FOREIGN MINISTER'S CUBA-ANGOLA STATEMENT

REF: (A) COPENHAGEN 6431 (NOTAL); (B) 76 COPENHAGEN 4074

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON READING THIS MORNING'S PRESS, I TELEPHONED MFA PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN OVER THE EFFECT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER K.B.ANDERSEN'S REPORTED REMARKS MIGHT HAVE IN HINDERING A WARM RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON. I SAID THAT I EXPECTED QUESTIONS MIGHT BE RAISED AND THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE DANISH GOVERNMENT HERE, OR ANDERSEN HIMSELF, MIGHT MAKE SOME FURTHER CLARIFICATION.
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2. THIS AFTERNOON, EIGIL JORGENSEN RETURNED MY CALL AND TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE THIS AFTERNOON FOR A SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT IN JUTLAND. THE PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT INTEND TO VOLUNTEER ANY STATEMENT NOW. THE PRIME MINISTER NOTED THAT ONLY PRESS ACCOUNTS OF ANDERSEN'S REPORTED STATEMENTS ARE

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AVAILABLE AND THEIR ACCURACY MAY NOT BE COMPLETE. IF THE PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WHILE IN JUTLAND, THE PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEMPT TO PLAY DOWN THE WHOLE MATTER BUT WILL REPEAT THE ESSENCE OF ANDERSEN'S REPORTED REMARKS: THAT IS, A "GOVERNMENT" IS PERFECTLY WITHIN ITS RIGHTS TO REQUEST OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE FROM ANY SOURCE. THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD "WONDER" WHY THE WEST APPEARS TO BE RELUCTANT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS FROM AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE. THIS LACK OF RESPONSE MAKES THESE GOVERNMENTS THEN TURN TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

3. I NOTED THAT THE CUBANS INTERVENED IN A CIVIL WAR BEFORE ANY GOVERNMENT EMERGED AND THAT, FURTHERMORE, LONG AFTER THE MPLA CAME TO POWER THOUSANDS OF CUBAN FORCES REMAIN IN ANGOLA.

4. THE PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY, WHILE NOT RESPONDING DIRECTLY TO THE FIRST PART OF MY OBSERVATION, RECALLED THAT WHEN ANDERSEN WAS IN ANGOLA LAST NOVEMBER, HE TOLD NETO TO GET RID OF THE CUBANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT ANGOLA'S CREDIBILITY AS AN INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATE WOULD NOT BE UNDERMINED. AND THAT ANDERSEN'S REPORT OF THIS TRIP WAS CONVEYED TO WASHINGTON. (MY REPORT OF ANDERSEN'S BRIEFING ON HIS ANGOLA VISIT SHOWS THAT ANDERSEN INQUIRED ABOUT THE CUBAN FORCES BUT DOES NOT REVEAL THAT HE URGED THE ANGOLANS TO LET THEM GO (REF B).

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5. THE PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY ADDED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY INTENDS TO TALK BY TELEPHONE TONIGHT WITH ANDERSEN AND WILL URGE HIM TO USE HIS ASSERTED DEMARCHE WITH THE ANGOLANS ON THE CUBANS IF THIS MATTER IS RAISED IN WASHINGTON.

6. THE PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY ADDED THAT QUESTIONS ON ANDERSEN'S REMARKS WILL BE TAKEN UP IN THE FOLKETING NEXT TUESDAY, BEFORE ANDERSEN'S RETURN TO DENMARK, AND THAT THE PRIME INISTER HIMSELF WOULD REPLY TO THE QUESTIONS ALONG THE LINES SET OUT ABOVE.

7. THE PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY CONCLUDED THAT THE DANISH GOVERN-MENT HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED BY THIS WHOLE MATTER.

8. COMMENT: IT IS APPARENT FROM THE PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY'S OWN REACTION AND A SIMILAR ONE VOICED PRIVATELY BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR, HENNING GOTTLIEB, THAT THE DANISH FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROFESSIONALS HAVE BEEN ACUTELY DISMAYED BY ANDER-SEN'S REPORTED AWKWARD REMARKS. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERCUT OR CONTRADICT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER PUBLICLY.

9. LIKE OFFICIALS IN MANY WESTERN DEMOCRACIES, ANDERSEN HAS

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SAID THINGS THAT HE HAS COME TO REGRET AND ALTHOUGH HE APPARENTLY DID NOT TAKE THE OCCASION IN BRASIL TO CORRECT HIS REPORTED STATEMENTS, I DOUBT THAT HE WOULD MAKE THEM IN THAT MANNER AGAIN. AT THE SAME TIME I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THESE STATEMENTS SHOULD BE IGNORED DURING HIS WASINGTON VISIT. PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF DENMARK'S UPCOMING EC PRESIDENCY, AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION SHOULD BE SEIZED UPON TO REVIEW WITH ANDERSEN OUR PRESENT ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA, ESPECIALLY THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THE CUBANS. DEAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009